

## Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 SCS-03 SCA-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 SSO-00 /078 W

----- 063801

R 081554Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5620

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7556

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4

TAGS: PINT, SOCI, CI

SUBJECT: CHILEAN PRIESTS INVOLVED WITH MIR FUGITIVES

REF: SANTIAGO 7546

1. SENIOR CHURCHMAN TOLD EMBOFF NOV 8 THAT TWO CHILEAN JESUIT PRIESTS WHO ARE STILL AT LARGE, FERNANDO SALAS AND PATRICIO CARIOLA, ARE IN SAFE PLACE. HE SAID NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT SALAS HAD TAKEN REFUGE IN PAPAL NUNCIATURA (SANTIAGO 7550) WERE INCORRECT.

2. SOURCE SAID CHURCH IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED FOR SALAS, WHO WAS MORE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN HELPING FUGITIVE MIRISTAS. SALAS IS NOT POLITICALLY INVOLVED, BUT IN PAST HAD SERVED AS CONTACT WITH MIR. CHURCH FEARS THAT SECURITY FORCES WANT VERY BADLY TO GET FROM HIM ALL INFORMATION HE MAY HAVE. CHURCH WOULD NOW LIKE TO GET THE TWO PRIESTS OUT OF CHILE AS SOON AS PRACTICAL, BUT NOT BY EXPULSION. BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE FOR THEM TO GIVE THEMSELVES UP WITH SOME SORT OF GUARANTEE OF QUICK GOVERNMENT ACTION AND SUBSEQUENT RELEASE FOR VOLUNTARY DEPARTURE. HE ASKED IF USG COULD HELP.

3. EMBOFF EXPLAINED THAT EMBASSY'S FIRST RESPONSIBILITY NOW IS TO HOLY CROSS FATHERS THOMAS PHILIP (JOHN) DEVLIN, AND THEN TO EX-US CITIZEN GERALD WHELAN, AND THAT WE ARE USING  
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OUR INFLUENCE TO AID THEM. HE DOUBTED EMBASSY COULD IN ADDI-

TION BE EFFECTIVE WITH GOC ON SALAS AND CARIOLA, IN WHOM THERE IS NO DIRECT US INTEREST. SHOULD THEY BE FREE TO LEAVE CHILE, HOWEVER, HE OFFERED TO QUERY DEPARTMENT ON WHETHER THEY COULD BE ADMITTED.

4. COMMENT: THERE IS OF COURSE NO REASON WHY SALAS AND CARIOLA MIGHT NOT PREFER TO GO TO ANY OTHER COUNTRY WILLING TO RECEIVE THEM. IF THEY WISH TO SEEK REFUGE IN US WE COULD AT THE PROPER TIME CONSIDER THEM FOR ENTRY UNDER PAROLE PROGRAM; ALTERNATIVELY, CHILEAN CHURCH MIGHT BE ABLE TO ARRANGE WITH CATHOLIC ORDERS IN US FOR NIV ENTRY, OR THEY MIGHT BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE UNDER 212 (D) (5).  
POPPER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, POLITICAL ASYLUM, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, TERRORISTS, CHURCH STATE RELATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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